



Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Dayton, OH

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. Since 1995, EPA has funded more than 150 Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilots, at up to \$200,000 each, to support creative two-year explorations and demonstrations of brownfields solutions. The Pilots are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Dayton for a Brownfields Pilot. Dayton (population 182,005) was a prosperous factory town until the late 1960s, when jobs and workers began moving to the suburbs—a demographic shift that occurred in many U.S. cities. Between 1970 and 1990, the city lost more than 45,000 jobs and 60,000 residents. Today, abandoned factories are a common sight. The average income in the city is 74% of the national average; the city's population is 40% minority. Several poor neighborhoods in the city have been designated as federal Enterprise Communities.

Dayton has identified ten area brownfields sites, covering more than 135 acres of land, as priority sites for cleanup and redevelopment. These ten downtown sites are located in economically disadvantaged and minority neighborhoods. Dayton's comprehensive city development plan identified the tooling and machine industries as potential suppliers of more than 5,600 new jobs. To meet this demand, the city created a concept known as "Tool Town" that concentrates tooling and machining companies, support services, and training opportunities on redeveloped brownfields sites. The Pilot will initially target a 35-acre former automobile factory as the first stage of Tool Town's development. The abandoned factory is in a prime location, near the downtown area, existing businesses,

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Dayton, Ohio

Date of Announcement:
May 1998

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets brownfields properties for the development of "Tool Town," a concentration of tooling and machining businesses, educational opportunities, and support services.

Contacts:

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Visit the EPA Region 5 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

a community college, transportation routes, and a potential work force, but suspected environmental contamination at the site has stymied redevelopment.

OBJECTIVES

Dayton will use its Pilot to assess and plan for the cleanup of the former automobile factory for the Tool Town redevelopment project. The Pilot will also develop a plan to encourage community involvement in brownfields redevelopment through a series of public meetings. A Brownfields Resource Team, which supports the city's Brownfields Redevelopment Authority, will manage the Pilot funds, provide technical evaluation of the site assessment and cleanup plan, and coordinate community involvement.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Completing environmental assessments of the targeted site;
- Developing cleanup plans for the site;
- Identifying potential funding sources for future cleanup and redevelopment;
- Facilitating public forums to encourage community involvement and obtain input from affected neighborhoods on environmental concerns and redevelopment plans; and
- Providing technical assistance and information to citizens and community groups.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.